

WEATHER FORECAST
CLOUDY. Rainfall on Tuesday and Wednesday. Stronger winds and showers on Thursday and Friday. The rest of the weekend is mostly clear to partly cloudy with occasional showers.

Second FRONT PAGE

General confirms poll fraud plan

By Christian V. Espinosa

A POLICE general has confirmed the purported plan to coordinate massive election fraud involving money, bribery, and political influence, leading a coalition for honor, order, and peaceful elections.

But while the Coalition of 1999 did not see the plan, it was not the only one. The "Coalition" was formed by some members of the Philippine National Police, he said in an interview with the business and political magazines.

During his "Executive Order" in a commonwealth law, the general claimed that national election commission members must "do everything for GMA to win" in their respective areas of responsibility.

The information had come from some regional directors and lower-ranking police officers who provided to the PNP some documents that alleged plan right after the election.

He said he had the alleged plan from some chief superintendents, some generals and their staff from the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group and the Intelligence Group.

General Nireto, 57, police director at the time, provided a detailed list

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RELUCTANT PATIENT
Defying his doctors, Senator Chab Benigno Abalos left his hospital bed right after his scheduled surgery to return to his duties. He is seen here in his hospital bed after his scheduled surgery to return to his duties.

Abalos defies doctors, leaves hospital bed

By RANEE S. Rivera

MANILA (AP) — Senator Chab Benigno Abalos defied his doctors' orders last night and climbed out of his Manila hospital bed to resume his public duties.

Abalos, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer last year, had been in the hospital for several days after surgery to remove the cancerous gland.

He was seen walking out of his hospital room last night, accompanied by a nurse, and heading to his office at the Senate.

Abalos, 57, is a member of the Senate Committee on Health and has been in the hospital since his surgery on May 15.

His doctors had advised him to stay in bed for at least a week after the surgery.

Abalos, however, decided to leave the hospital to resume his duties as a senator.

blood transfusion, finishing two more of his scheduled prostatectomy sessions.

Abalos said the bleeding was caused by the use of a catheter in the rectum to help with the surgery.

Abalos's physician, Dr. Arnold Abalos, said he was not aware of his senator's decision to leave the hospital.

Abalos said he was not in any pain and was feeling better.

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Guard the vote, pleads GMA on polls' eve

By Julia Lopez-Jarman

MANILA (AP) — President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo urged voters to guard the vote on the eve of the May 20 national elections.

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AbayPamilya is certified party-list group

THE RIGHTS of party-list candidates that appeared in the May 9 local elections were based on the AbayPamilya list, which was certified by the Commission on Elections (COMELEC).

AbayPamilya is a party-list group that was certified by the Commission on Elections (COMELEC).

Dislike for a bet doesn't necessarily mean he will lose

By Dean Arnold D. Valdez

(The author is a former director for the Office of the Public Affairs of the Office of the President of the Philippines.)

HAILE MARIJON's victory in the popularity of a recently conducted survey, there is a positive observation which has implications for the future.

Take the case of John Francis who ranked no. 7 in the survey. His supporters, sitting among the voters, were 100 percent, but only 29.3 percent said they would vote for him. This indicates a 70.7 percent opposition to his candidacy.

On the other hand, in the case of Ferdinand E. Marcos, who came in at no. 10 in the survey, only 64 percent of the voters were aware that he was running, and of the 141 percent said they would vote for him. Thus, 49.8 percent of those who would not vote for him, but the 141 percent who would vote for him, the 7.2 percent who dislike Marcos, who had a 100 percent opposition rating. The conclusion is that those who dislike Marcos are not those who would vote for him, but the 141 percent who would vote for him, the 7.2 percent who dislike Marcos, who had a 100 percent opposition rating. The conclusion is that those who dislike Marcos are not those who would vote for him, but the 141 percent who would vote for him, the 7.2 percent who dislike Marcos, who had a 100 percent opposition rating. The conclusion is that those who dislike Marcos are not those who would vote for him, but the 141 percent who would vote for him, the 7.2 percent who dislike Marcos, who had a 100 percent opposition rating.

Mr. Marcos, who occupied the no. 1 spot in the survey, had an opposition rating of 49.8 percent, but his base was not necessarily the least liked, since only 49.8 percent of those who knew him said they were voting for him. This gave him a 50.2 percent "dislike" rating, which was slightly higher than those who disliked him.

Initially, none of these men

likely to be elected to the office of the President of the Philippines. However, the survey showed that the number of voters who disliked them in the survey was not the number of voters who would vote for them. As for the "dislike" factor, the top two were Ferdinand E. Marcos, who ranked no. 1, and John Francis, who ranked no. 7. The survey showed that the number of voters who disliked them in the survey was not the number of voters who would vote for them. As for the "dislike" factor, the top two were Ferdinand E. Marcos, who ranked no. 1, and John Francis, who ranked no. 7.

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Tender Pork Tender, That's Goldilocks

Erap not allowed to vote

By Harold H. Hurl

REPUBLICAN President Joseph Estrada will not be able to vote after the Commission on Elections decided that allowing him to do so would not be a precedent for other decisions to make similar rulings.

Although the Commission on Elections is not a court, it has the authority to make such decisions. The Commission is not a court, it has the authority to make such decisions. The Commission is not a court, it has the authority to make such decisions.

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Commission on Elections (COMELEC) in Manila.

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BUSINESS *Monday*

RP elections; China, EU and US interest rates

By Rico Hizon
Contributor

THIRD, the Philippine economic boom built on the shoulders of 40 million Filipinos, teetering on polling stations around the country.

Nations will decide which candidate on political party has the superior platform that would create more jobs, attract foreign investments, and pursue better economic relations with the country.

They will also have to decide which candidate could lead the country in the new global marketplace. And how to deal with external events such as a downturn of the Chinese economy, the expansion of the European Union and an imminent hike in US borrowing costs.

I speak with two leading economists: Gregorio S. Beng, 28, Singapore University of Technology and Design, managing director of M&A Economic Analysis, and they shared with me their views on how these events will impact the Philippines going forward.

Q: The elections are here and in three days, the country will have a new head of state for the next six years. How should the priorities of the president be for the first 100 days in office?

On Beng: "The main challenge is to fix the country's fiscal deficit. Reduce income and the expansion of internal revenue services for tax collection."

Further down the road, the state must lower and streamline its budget. The first goal. Attract more foreign direct investments, which brought \$2.5 billion in 2005 and \$2.2 billion last year and create more jobs to reduce the Philippines' unemployment rate to 10 percent.

Reyes: If President Macapagal retains

the presidency, she needs to focus on fiscal responsibilities, to live first 100 days, and especially on strengthening programs on the privatization of government entities, the promotion of investment, and beginning the process of ending the government's monopoly.

Philis, the key challenge facing the prospective president for would be to regain the confidence of markets. He will need to put in place a strong team of technocrats, and reassure the markets that his rhetoric regarding debt overhauling is firmly believed in and will not be raised again.

Q: What would you recommend to some of investment strategy if President Macapagal remains in power?

On Beng: Markets could rely on the short-term rise in the long-term position, a month-end policy outlook and not the daily in the regard, the risk is that things will continue to rise but not steadily.

Reyes: There would be a significant 'let rally' in virtually all Philippine assets. Regular adjustments remain quite attractive, and investors should remain invested in stocks through the next half-year of average growth.

Below bond spreads will rise slightly, as investors holding these instruments will also be happy to see the first three months of President Macapagal's term.

Q: What would your investment strategy if President Arroyo becomes the new head of state?

On Beng: Negative is the short-term, but longer-term will be driven by the job sector.

Reyes: Don't expect the index to rise, especially I would expect correction in the Philippines to take a defensive approach—more with stocks that are defensive, more in bonds and more in foreign

currency instruments, will more clearly emerge, there are new potential problems.

Q: If the Chinese economy slows, will this have a major impact on Philippine exports to China and the country's economic growth?

On Beng: Overall Philippine exports to China are in the region of 6 percent in 2005, of that a significant portion of electronics that are first-hand demand in the industrial countries, estimated at 30-40 percent of exports.

Plus, Philippine exports to China would still be heavily influenced by the 7 countries: Thailand, India, Japan, US, France, Germany, Canada, Italy.

Reyes: Philippine exports to China will undoubtedly decline when the Chinese economy slows. I expect a hard landing for the Chinese economy in 2007, and this will severely hurt some exports to the Philippines—more negative and some positive.

Philippine exports to China (including Hong Kong) have already slowed this year—and they show of Philippine exports were already down to 12.5 percent in the first nine months of this year, compared with 13.4 percent in the second half of last year. This suggests that the Philippines was moving faster than other Asian countries to lower its dependence on Chinese demand, although overall export growth has slowed because demand for the Philippines.

Q: With the election of the European Union (EU) in 2005, will this have a major impact on Philippine exports to the EU?

On Beng: Philippine exports to the EU, at the 15 percent level, are likely to grow considerably faster before some lower

interest rate environment, but in some regions such as Spain, Ireland, Portugal, Italy and Greece in the past. However, the new EU 15 states will also have some foreign direct investments that they did in the past—both from within Europe as well as outside, so increasing EU trade manufacturing and services to these well-served but cheap European destinations begins to look increasingly attractive.

On Beng: Exports to the Philippines are mostly electronic (around 65 percent), these should benefit from technological but the negative is the cost.

Q: US Federal Reserve interest rate hike this August, how may this in turn affect the Philippine central bank's monetary policy and will this have a significant impact on the economy?

Reyes: The Federal Reserve has done well to manage the difficult balancing act between deflationary concerns and keeping interest rates low enough not to impede economic activity. The USF will continue to keep on American inflation above the Fed's policy stance. High oil prices are likely to put more pressure on inflation.

On Beng: The US dollar is the most stable in the world, and it is the most stable—especially in rising bond prices have significant implications on Philippine exports to the United States. The USF is likely to tighten around the Fed in the next few months to fix its inflation. Inflation.

On Beng: Phil exports to the United States are likely to remain on the rise.

Reyes: The Philippines remains on the rise in terms of exports to the United States. In terms of imports, a small rise in economic growth and also rise the cost of living will be the consequence.

(The author writes Rico Hizon's weekly earnings, published at marketplace.inquirer.net.)

Cold War border property offers view of peace

PHILADELPHIA, South Korea—A bright light, July at the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), 100 meters from the border. The 70-year-old brick house, established by the 50-year-old Korean border guard who he was able to buy his house in the DMZ.

He's in selling, the place about the money he's put into the house 30 years ago.

South Koreans are starting to think differently about the DMZ. It's not a border, it's a museum, and that is helping to boost property prices all over the peninsula, but particularly in the area around the DMZ.

Plans to move with South Korea are now in the DMZ, which allows the Korean government to increase the DMZ's popularity.

"When I bought the land, the area was very barren," says the owner of the house, who owned the house for 30 years. "It was a very barren area, but now it's a very beautiful area."

"Now, it's a very beautiful area. It's a very beautiful area. It's a very beautiful area. It's a very beautiful area."

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Priests, nuns deployed as poll watchers in Cebu

By Bernardino Peral, Joey Gidycz,
Ray Padilla and Nancy Amato,
U.S. Census Bureau

CNN/CNN—As part of "Operation Tusk," restaurants, prisons and more will be targeted in pull week-long tourism promotion campaign in effort to deter chemical threat from as elections and law enforcement officials in this city and the rest of the United States to ensure stress and human rights.

Lay and religious volunteers have been assigned to monitor the transport of the Civil War of American veterans such as prevent them from re-creating, particularly for president and vice-presidents.

Today, along with architects Fernando Trespalacios and Cesarosio Boudier, he led the Coalition for Honest and Opened Elections (Fape) and tightly placed officials in the military to forward those that certain candidates would engage in massive fraud on Election Day.

Some of the most popular in-home treatment options include giving owners one-to-one training, pulling of owner's hand, use of new printed bathmat, turning away of child's view through the door or to window, and using a mirror and blackboard.

Duke's advisors involve multiple voting, replacement of valid Certificates of Coverage (COCs) and COBs with fake documents, replacement of valid letters with fake ones and tampering with official election results through double voting (adding votes to one candidate by changing the name of another).

total and they were also informed by representatives of a coalition of public school teachers that the Commission on Electronic joined one million dollars for the use by teachers, although there were only around one million school teachers nationwide.

"The purpose of coming out is to publicize the information that we wanted it to also be the plan was to know that we know all about it and at the same time about the people. I appeal to the people concerned not to let for the sake of our union, of our children and grandchildren not be the same generation," Takeda said.

Added on his revealed that Central Vietnam (Region 7) was included in the list of "hotbed areas" where mass graves would be perpetrated. Also included are the Hanoi region, Cambodia and Southern Myanmar.

Monterrey, Toluca, officials in Ciudad Juarez (Mexico City) and Eastern Virginia (the U.S.) expressed readiness for today's discussion despite "minor problems."

Intergovernmental relations supervisor Manuel Avelar said police and army personnel have been deployed in US villages in the pandemic-deteriorated areas of concern.

Lawyer Francisco Salazar, Cienfuegos-based, told the reporters that there was a shortage of "acceptable" items like official buses and electronic meters to count for drug seizures, in the areas.



LOVE ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

It was all over on the hearings as Today reporter Claire Lopez grins. Here he proposes to ABC-CNN reporter Maria Thelard during Sen. Pardo Latorre's party for the media on Saturday night. Thelard said yes.

Teachers may vote in assigned precincts

By Dennis E. Fawcett

TO AVOID a possibly massive disenchanchement of members in Rhode Island, the Commission on Elections yesterday decided at the last minute to allow teachers to vote in their assigned precincts the procedure used in the past.

teachers to be registered online in the provinces they are stationed at before they could vote.

"Public and private school teachers and other members of the Board of Education inspectors who are registered in cities or municipalities other than their place of assignment ineligible for consideration for national positions," says Conacher's urgent public advisory.

"They shall be considered local citizens who are like members of the police and the community," he said.

EXPENSE
System

days. Of this, about \$50,000 are public school benefits.

Until Thursday at noon, any of those

...of public school teachers were waiting word from the Comptroller on whether they could serve as all-

[illegible]

Department of Education, the Committee issued a memorandum on April 26 that said teachers would

not serve as MMs in a practical if they were not residents in the practice's city or jurisdiction.

This was based on an electrical rule which otherwise believes was violated.

Of the estimated

21,000 teachers assigned to 10,000 schools, most live outside the cities.

would have been
hired, permitted to re-
place them on their re-
servation day, which
could have resulted in

Schwartz, Undersecretary Anti-Lung Cancer, who heads

The Dupont's objections, says her son, could be the same ones that have come out with a clear picture: the location.

They would have all
stood out without
machines and in some
quibbles.

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HOLLY HOLIDAY		
11/24 MONDAY		
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11/26 WEDNESDAY		
11/27 THURSDAY		
11/28 FRIDAY		
40	THE MONUMENTS MEN	358
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42	THE MONUMENTS MEN	340
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44	THE MONUMENTS MEN	286
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46	THE MONUMENTS MEN	199
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51	THE MONUMENTS MEN	333
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UK warns on travel to RP due to polls

By Jennifer Nelling

THE UNITED Kingdom returned to travel warning on the Philippines over the potential risk of rising civil unrest as the political system continues to face several setbacks.

Therapist-related violence has increased in cases of clients during the

anyone else in the election. With that caveat remaining, the likelihood is to remain through the no-voting period, which could take a month," said EPA's Strategic and Communications Office (SFO).

The ministry noted that telephone call centres were established because of political circumstances.

the bankers walked toward the
stage about jostled hands down
in their hands and others.

The schism, dated May 1, also said there was a general threat of invasion and kidnapping throughout the Philippines.

There continues to be strong support among business and

there is a danger of suffered damage from the air attack having occurred in others," the PSII said.

It must always and to be particularly vigilant in all public places and when travelling.

The FCC returned its ties to all three national, southern and western divisions, to Dallas.

Party-list groups say they're targets

GENT ON THE PULPIT—The paralytic group focuses on the and five other paralytic organizations are the targets of anti-sharing and chemical weapons. But their focus is on getting more aid to the U.S. and, their leaders said, to a more constructive role in the world.

George Johnson, a Bayan White nationalist, published his book, *My African Heritage*, in 1964. The book propounded the military and police, and the series of killings and displacements of 41 Indians were indications of efforts to "prevent us from winning in the new society."

DeLeon said the purple groups Annapolis, both by Regan, Cabrera, Miguero and Juan Rodriguez were also in line of election from, Sandy Ogden, PTV Festival Juan Rod, and Viceroy Cabrera, PTV Northern Juan Rod.

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The World

Editor: Lawrence S. Davis

President of Chechnya killed in blast

ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia—The firm-backed president of Russia's war-torn Chechnya, Ingush and a top Russian general were killed Monday when an explosion tore through a stadium in the Chechen capital where they were attending Victory Day observances marking the defeat of the Nazis in World War II, the republic's invasion Ministry said.

President Alkhan Alkhanov died about 20 minutes after the blast, which occurred by a hand gun planted under the stadium VIP seats, a spokesman said and on condition of anonymity told news. Senior Russian troops and investigators, said a Chechen official, said.

In all, four people were killed and 40 wounded, and Alkhanov's death, a spokesman for the Ministry of Emergency Situations declared Russian official.

The blast unfolded the latest security problems since the Kremlin was surprised a long-rented ally nearly five years of fighting against separatist rebels.

Russian soldiers are reported killed separately Sunday at least by rebels and by separatist forces.

Within the war-torn Chechen capital, too a huge presence of Russian troops, but they have not been able to purge insurgents from the city.

There was an immediate state of emergency for the blast, but support immediately fell on the city.

"You'll see it take the support behind and on condition of anonymity," Russian President Vladimir Putin said at the conclusion of Moscow's Victory Day parade on Red Square, the first Day since openly ended.

Russia's MTV television broadcast footage of the stadium's VIP section collapsing into a twisted ball of steel, flames, and smoke, showing up a plume of Russian tanks. Eyewitnesses showed in their families that shattered into the blast zone. One man was shown carrying a twisted child, while one in another clung to a woman. Kadymov covered in blood was from the broken seating area. Shots rang out into the air.



KADYMOV

Another emergency security spokesman, but top Chechnya, said that a second blast later was found near the VIP seats, that said. But a Russian radio reported that no more people were killed.

Russia made the Alkhanov case the high case this week's military parade and fireworks over the country.

Insecurity was especially high across Russia. In 2001, a bomb exploded during a Victory Day military parade in the Caucasus, the port of Rostov, killing 21 people, including 11 children.

Russian troops have been fighting Chechen insurgents from much of the last decade. The third war began in September 1999. Chechen separatist fighters and Russian troops have been unable to agree the whole from their respective interests in Russia's economy, from Caspian.

Alkhanov was a rebel commander during the September 1999 war that ended with Russian forces withdrawing. However, he became disenchanted during the period of Chechnya's de facto independence, complaining of the growing influence of the Islamist sect of Islam in the republic. AP



A VIDEO grab from MTV Russian station shows an actor in a crowd holding a gun toward soldiers in Chechen President Alkhanov's crowd after an explosion at a stadium in Grozny May 9, during annual observances of "Victory Day" Russia's President Vladimir Putin came down from the state lighting Moscow since the 1990s, residents criticized for any smoke. AP/WIDE

Dogged by bad news, Blair faces call for resignation

LONDON—British Prime Minister Tony Blair doggedly questioned about his future, he said, but his resignation on Sunday by a senior member of his Labour Party.

Lord David Patten, a Labour peer and personal friend of Blair, said neither of his own health, nor his own future, nor the party's electoral prospects and the prime minister should make way, his Labour minister Gordon Brown said.

"The prime minister is a commitment with long and long will only deliver bad news," Patten said. "I'm sure he'll be in an hour, but he'll be in an hour."

"If I were him, I would go before the next election," Patten said. "Patten said."

Blair's supporters have been asking a Union on confidence in an ongoing Union campaign and on resignation policy widely seen as his goal. His current public trust and prompted speculation that Brown will replace him.

On Sunday, Blair's poll in the Mail on Sunday newspaper said that Labour could only win a second majority in the next election. The poll also showed support for the way in which it is an all-time low following changes of

about a long presence by British and American troops.

There had 20 people over Blair's office on Sunday to invade Blair's house, compared with one on Sunday April 1999.

Patten said, if Blair leaves a stable government, he will be in a position to lead the Union in such the United Kingdom would "inevitably" be the next to take over.

"Gordon Brown is exactly the person who will be best able to lead that and to have things on the domestic agenda, multi-party would be able to win a second majority in a general election, even if he is held within the next 12 months."

The British poll showed Labour could win the election, but it did not say whether it was in charge, but it would win a majority of 77 seats if it landed one in Brown.

Blair's

Fewer bright overseas students entering American universities

WASHINGTON—When a post-9/11 decline hit the U.S. and the University of California, Berkeley, the decline in the number of bright students entering U.S. universities was not a surprise, but it was a surprise.

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"The experience is a loss of two continents," said the president of the American Association of Universities, who said the decline in the number of bright students entering U.S. universities was not a surprise, but it was a surprise.

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Blair, largely from his, has declined significantly over the past two years because they are being deterred by a post-9/11 war zone.

Because some of those behind the 9/11 attacks entered the country on student visas, the government is closely vetting applicants.

"While we recognize that there is a decline in the number of bright students entering U.S. universities, we are concerned that America's position at the forefront of scholarship and discovery is threatened by the decline in the number of bright students entering U.S. universities."

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The Council of American Scholars, a Washington-based global group engaged in public education, research, and policy, and the president of the American Association of Universities, who said the decline in the number of bright students entering U.S. universities was not a surprise, but it was a surprise.

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Bush fails to quell prison abuse scandal

German teen confesses to creating Sasser worm

WASHINGTON—An apology by President George W. Bush for the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US troops failed to quell the anger of critics, while fighting between coalition forces and supporters of a unified Iraqi Muslim clerical government continued.

Bush sought to win amnesty for soldiers accused in place down the names of abuse of Iraqi held at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad. Making "a small number of American servicemen and women."

"These individuals have been given the responsibility of overseeing Iraqi in American custody, and doing with a decent and humane manner, consistent with US law and the Geneva Convention (on the rules of war)," said Bush, who had apologized earlier in the week.

"However, we have sent our best troops and personnel, and they have been subjected to abuse and humiliation," he said.

The British government, Bush's closest ally in the Iraq war, became further divided in the scandal, with some British papers publishing allegations of abuse by British troops.

The Daily Mirror published that soldiers of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment had made photos of detainees to try to get to America. The photograph posted a former Iraqi prisoner as being in bad

health because of the abuse, chest and genital by soldiers from the US.

And the Sunday Telegraph reported that British troops at the center of the allegations have been ordered to hand over every photograph they took in Iraq.

US officials acknowledge the issue has been brought since April 25 of Iraqi prisoners in custody, rights and degrading photos have been damaged US standing, particularly in the Muslim world.

The Foreign minister of Italy, a top US ally in the war, delivered some of the harshest criticism.

"This terror is a disgrace to the tradition of which we are a part and which is supported by the values of a free Iraq," said Franco Frattini.

British Foreign Minister Michael Govey announced that US and British authorities would release "documents and tapes" and "evidence of mistreatment, the Foreign Ministry said."

However, said the secretary of the US military academy at "common sense humanity."

Muslims demanded tough punishment for those responsible, and Saddam Hussein's son-in-law, Qusay Hussein, said British soldiers "deserve to be killed."

He said the Pentagon was in possession of more photos and videos from Abu Ghraib prison—which he had seen—and which were more "damaging" than those already published.

Saudi Arabia's Arab News daily began the same newspaper to call for Bush to step down, demanding his apology for the abuse. Iraq, the paper reported, "is a country looking toward chaos while the people move toward anarchy."

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PHOTO obtained by the New York Times from an unidentified source shows a US soldier standing in front of a building, possibly a prison or military installation.

HANNOVER, Germany—An 18-year-old German man has spent five years in prison after he admitted to creating the Internet worm that caused the shutdown of many computers worldwide.

The teenager, whose police have not identified by name, was arrested Friday after a call to parents from a neighbor.

He had created the computer code of a "worm" which caused systems to crash and spread to other systems.

Investigators seized several items from the house, including a computer monitor and keyboard.

Investigators said they got a recording of him from his mother, the world's largest software firm. A spokeswoman for the company in Germany said it had "received a call from people who had information on him and knew his identity."

The teenager was released Monday after his grandfather, who was living with him, made a "bill of exchange," police said.

He spent up to five years in prison for the "computer sabotage," lower German police spokesman Detlef Thiele said.

"Given detailed information the student on the crime that he created, he has been identified without doubt as being behind them," the spokeswoman said.

"Stimulated by discussion with classmates, particularly at the time, he was convinced that he was doing 'hacking,' a word which means to break into a computer system, he said.

The worm spread across the Internet, causing a world-wide shutdown of computers and as many as 15 million e-mails worldwide, forcing some companies to shut down their e-mail systems.

The worm spread to a few in recent months of Microsoft's Windows operating system—Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows NT—forcing the computer into an unacceptable state of shutting down, thus allowing it to spread further.

"The suspect will be sentenced to the prison for the damage caused by the worm, said prosecutor Hans Treutmann.

It is unclear how the teenager, who was nearly 18, had managed the author of the worm as from a graduate of a technical school who has not yet reached high school graduation.

US approved sleep deprivation, nudity for Cuba inmates

WASHINGTON—The US government has approved a series of human rights violations for use at detention facilities in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, after a report revealing the extent of abuse of prisoners of war.

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Under the supervision of US military officials, the report said, Cuban inmates were subjected to a series of human rights violations, including sleep deprivation, nudity, and other forms of abuse.

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Taiwan's Chen seeks to silence critics with vote recount

TAIPEI—Taiwan's President Chen Shui-bian on Monday sought to silence critics by ordering a vote recount in the presidential election, which he won by a narrow margin.

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PHOTO taken at the inauguration ceremony of the new president of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian, on May 20, 2000.

Obesity gains ground as worldwide killer

LONDON—It's a bitter truth to swallow: almost every fourth person on Earth is too fat. Obesity is the fastest growing of the world's leading causes of death.

It is an alarming statistic in a world where the number of people who are obese is rising at an alarming rate.

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PHOTO shows a woman standing, illustrating the topic of obesity.

Skyrocketing US fuel prices reopens debate on gas-guzzling

By Louise Loh

CHICAGO—Record-high US gasoline prices have sparked a debate about whether it is still worth buying a gas-guzzling car.

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MONDAY, MAY 18, 2003

Nepal still in turmoil despite PM's resignation

REMEMBER—At least 22 people have died in continued fighting with Maoist rebels since Nepal's recent prime minister stepped down, but such is hope of ending political turmoil in the kingdom, an official said Sunday.

The Maoist anti-government parties which last month took control of the capital, Kathmandu, have vowed to negotiate with a coalition of parties unless their demands are met within the next 10 days.

A security official said 22 rebels were killed during the last four days since the government's resignation Friday.

He said the rebels, who want to overthrow the monarchy, also attacked 36 teachers and students from a school Friday in the western hillside district and were believed to be looking for more teachers and students.

King Gyanendra, who fired the elected prime minister in 2002, is paid for failing to tackle the insurgency, said in commenting that the next prime minister must seek to defeat the rebels.

"The king wants the next government to be formed including all parties under the leadership of a person who has a clean image and who can restore peace to the country and bring the process of parliamentary elections forward mid-April next year," a palace spokesman said at the weekend.

King Gyanendra and Queen Queen Elizabeth II visited the royal family's ancestral town of Pokhara where 28 Hindu priests held a special service to pray for peace and stability in the kingdom, a palace official said.

The Maoists, who control much of the countryside, have not reacted to the king's resignation. But the rebels have said the threat of prime minister in Kathmandu made no difference to them.

"The government does not matter as long as it is chosen by the king. What we want is a new constitution so the king can no longer exploit the people," senior Maoist spokesman said in a statement last week.

However, let the Maoist side in three months of failed negotiations with the current government last year. More than 1,500 people have died since the rebels left the capital in August and seized a coalition, according to human rights groups.

Despite their demand for the power struggle to be decided by the king, the Maoists have offered moral support to the opposition which has brought out thousands of protesters daily since April 1 demanding the king to restore democracy.

Kathmandu returned to the streets Sunday after the prime minister's resignation and charged against the king. The opposition has been called off a two-day strike set to start Sunday.

"We'll stop our movement only after the king agrees to support a new constitution created by the four parties," senior opposition leader Gyanendra said Sunday.

The five-party opposition alliance has proposed pressure minister Kumar Nepal, a communist and the main opposition leader in the dissolved parliament.

Saddam was badly wounded in Desert Storm, says doctor

BAGHDAD—Saddam Hussein was seriously wounded during an allied bombing raid in the 1991 Gulf war and had to be operated on, the deposed Iraqi president's personal doctor said in comments published Sunday.

"The main operation I carried out on the former president took place during the Gulf war, in his chest on Feb. 1 (1991) after he suffered deep wounds," Ali Haidar told Asharq al-Awsat in an interview.

"I was called out in an emergency to the 315th hospital which was converted for Iraqi leaders and found Saddam Hussein in the operating theatre, his face and uniform covered in so much blood I thought he was dead."

"Saddam told me he had been here in a road accident, but it was clear from the state he was in that it was the result of bombing," she stressed.



SADDAM

showed.

"He was injured in the jaw which had a deep deep wound in a bullet

strike right to the bone. He had also been cut on his left cheek and over his eyebrow. The hole finger on his right hand had been cut and was hanging off."

"I operated and stitched his finger back on and, to my great surprise, three months later there was no scar."

Before his arrest in April 2003, speculation was rife about the health of Saddam who ruled Iraq without respite from 1979.

Memory and health recalls varied amongst reports that he was severely ill, even dead, months before his arrest.

He has not captured Saddam last year. It is being done by a hole near by Saddam's of 1980, north of Baghdad.

Iraq's new interim rulers intend to put him on trial for crimes against humanity.

AP



BREDS-IN-TRAINING

Students in a class at the "Maqab School" in Maqab, a village in the north of Iraq, are learning to read and write. The school aims to teach a child's parents with a view to their children learning to read and write.

Viagra use gives away cheating hubbies

SINGAPORE—Mao is increasingly the downfall of unfaithful husbands, whose wives find the blue pills as proof of their spouse's secret trips, the Sunday Times said.

Lawyers and psychiatrists told the newspaper they had handled as many as 15 cases in which unfaithful husbands found by their wives to have recently bought the pills.

In court cases, the husband usually told the wife he was too tired and stressed to have sex but often kept out every late, claiming to be with friends or in the workplace, and leaving his blue pills.

One of his clients found the blue pills in his husband's possession and was an extremely suspicious as they do not have any because he said they were costing \$100.

"If he's not doing it with his wife, he's doing it with someone else," he said.

AP

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THREE HOURS of a four-hour presidential election were delayed by much earlier TV highlights of the election process that interrupted the live four-hour election.

Comelec, PNP scored for inaction over complaints of vote-buying

CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO—Many on Reynolds Square on Friday condemned the alleged actions of the Commission on Elections and the police to stop what they called "bribe and vote-buying" by additional voters in the election in Manila since on Friday the day after the election, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) were accused of inaction over complaints of vote-buying.

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Manila district chief of police Francisco said that a vote-buying case started in the night and died in the day. The former mayor reported that police from the Regional Mobile Group accompanied President.

Francisco said that the Commission on Elections (Comelec) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) were accused of inaction over complaints of vote-buying.

11-hour brownout hits 10 Misamis Oriental towns

Davao City, Davao Region—At least 10 towns in Misamis Oriental and Davao Region experienced an 11-hour power blackout that started at 11:45 a.m. yesterday.

The National Transmission Corp. (NTSC) said that the blackout was caused by a fault in the transmission line between Misamis Oriental and Davao Region.

7 rebels, goons slain in Masbate

MANILA CITY—Seven members of supposed New People's Army and a private armed group were killed in an encounter with Masbate police and soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division in Barangay Laga, Sorsogon, Masbate, on Sunday at about 2 p.m. yesterday.

Col. Rafael Sison, 50, a 1st Infantry Division commander, said the names of the victims were not yet available as of press time as the government troops were still pursuing the two groups.

Remullas expect opposition loss

DAVAO CITY—A new localist or presidential against the incumbent administration for the upcoming May 14 election in Davao, the localist administration (remullas) expect a loss in the upcoming May 14 election.

Remullas expect a loss in the upcoming May 14 election. Remullas expect a loss in the upcoming May 14 election.

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TEACHERS at the Aurora High School in Manila check out their ballot boxes Sunday in preparation for today's election. Photo shows five teachers in a room with many ballot boxes. (AP Photo)

Beware of snacks, poll watchers told

By Edwin C. Tanabe Jr.

STEARANCE. Teachers, poll watchers and other balloters were told to be alert for snacks during the counting.

After a few minutes, poll watchers and teachers who would be the main force in counting the votes were told to be alert for snacks during the counting.

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2 retired teachers take up poll duty due to staff lack

By Michael J. L. Nolasco and John Alvarado

FORBES lead teacher Corbelle Villanueva has long retired from teaching, but today she is back in the classroom to help out.

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Woman gives birth after being hit by dump truck

By Christine C. Tervel

A WOMAN miraculously gave birth to a 7-month-old baby girl after she was hit by a dump truck in Cebu, Philippines.

Police said the woman, whom they identified as Christine Tervel, was hit by a dump truck.

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They still want written order for 'Bong' votes

By Terna Quinsada

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Ex-cop linked to bank rob

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BLOOD DONOR
Philippine National Red Cross Chair Richard Santos donates blood at a blood donation center. (AP Photo)

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SINGER®

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

It has come to our attention that counterfeit and illegally manufactured SINGER® Sewing machines and SINGER® Oil are being distributed in the market.

Anyone caught manufacturing or selling these products will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

To ensure that you are purchasing authentic SINGER® Sewing Machines and SINGER® Oil, buy these products only from our authorized dealers. Upon purchase, fill up the official warranty card and mail directly to: SINGER® Philippines, Inc. 373 Bonifacio Drive, Fort Area, Manila.

All counterfeit SINGER® products will not be accepted for repairs and check-up at all authorized service centers.

For any information about counterfeit and illegally manufactured SINGER® products please contact:

Legal Department
SINGER® Philippines, Inc.
373 Bonifacio Drive,
Fort Area, Manila
Tel. No. 312-4211 to 39 Loc. 142
Email: legal@singerphilippines.com.ph

SPORTS

Email: psports@inquirer.com.phEditor: Teodoro E. Melendres
Assistant Editor: Ederis M. Villanueva

Bata weaves odd case magic / A25



WHAT'S HOT

Tiger trips on 75 / A28

Realtors outgun Phans Pals / A36



Cornett sparks Wolves / A29



WELTER: Featherweight champion Marquena (left) and Pacquiao engage in close-quarter fighting in the second round.

AP/WIDE

Pacquiao's foe came back from the grave

LAS VEGAS—Juan Manuel Marquena kept getting up and never gave up.

Knocked down three times in the first round, Marquena refused Saturday night to sit and wait for his fifth and last fight in his career in a thrilling fight with Filipino boxer Manny Pacquiao.

Marquena said he thought he won the fight. "At the first round I went to the corner and I thought I won," Marquena said. "But I learned that and I thought I won."

Marquena, who seemed as if he wouldn't make it out of the first round, took the fight on Pacquiao from the third round on in a fight that had the crowd at the MGM Grand hotel nervous that their long-coming rivalry would end. The Philippine star thought he had the judges' nod.

"I should have won the fight. I'm disappointed," Marquena said.

Marquena looked as if he wasn't going to get off the canvas after the third knockdown, in the first round. Pacquiao was level at the second of eight and landed the final blow with a right cross.

There, there on, he was a different fighter,

corner punching effectively and piling up the rounds.

By the final round, the three knockdowns were but a distant memory as Pacquiao's trainer, Freddie Roach, told him he had it with the first round.

"The fighters that get on a podium need the fight before hugging each other as the first round sounded."

"I thought Pacquiao had the edge, my God, we had a 10-7 edge in the first round," Roach said.

Marquena seemed little time going after Pacquiao, standing into down for the first time with 1:05 left in the first round with a straight left hand.

Marquena got up, only to go down seconds later from another left hand.

After Marquena would down for a third time late in the first round, a second like the fight was over.

Marquena laid on his back on the canvas, groaning his eyes, while referee Joe Corra counted before the Mexican finally got up at the count of eight and finished on his round.

The white groans of Marquena were muted with the blood flowing from his nose, but he fought back and won began

landing several good shots.

Late in the third round, he hit Pacquiao with a right hand that knocked him back and the two traded punches on the belt.

Marquena was more than holding his own, while Pacquiao seemed to be trying to land on his left hand.

"Show that you did, do you hear me?" Roach told Pacquiao after the fourth round.

Pacquiao was on over the right eye in the fifth round, and Marquena kept the pressure on. In his corner after the sixth round, he seemed not to be but was every round for the first.

Both fighters had won 15 rounds, and Marquena had stopped by last 11 opponents.

In a super lightweight fight, Miguel Cotto of Puerto Rico returned Saturday by taking a tough 12-round unanimous decision over Lawrence Moran.

Cotto, a 2008 Olympian and the WBO No. 4 contender at 140 lb, won on all three scorecards, but with some big right hands from Moran in the seventh round.

Cotto won 128-112 on one scorecard, 125-111 on a second and 117-111 on the third. Moran, who lives in Australia, fell to 26-5, losing his second fight in a row.

AP

ANHH
19M

P 50,000
MAY 10, 2009

This week's winning code
eto na!



Millions pa ang ipamimigay! Keep collecting crowns... haka manalo ka!

Eto ang last weeks' winning code! ➡

CORE
15N

SUNSHINE
50E

P 15,000 P 100,000
MAY 10, 2009 MAY 10, 2009



PACQUIAO looks a little surprised to Marquez's loss in the fifth round, shortly a full crowd in the MGM Grand Garden Arena, Manila.



Left: Pacquiao in the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, and right: Pacquiao in the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, and right: Pacquiao in the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.



Left: The fight, held at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, was widely expected to be a 1,000-plus affair.

Contrasting views on split draw

SPEAKER Jose de Venecia and Manila Mayor Lito Abaya had contrasting opinions following Manny Pacquiao's split draw with Mexican Juan Manuel Marquez in their world featherweight title fight in Las Vegas yesterday.

"A draw with the world champion already represents a victory," Jose de Venecia said in a press statement, but Abaya questioned the judge's decision, saying, "Manny was obviously the better fighter."

Abaya said he would still give Pacquiao a home's welcome in Manila when he comes and added that, like de Venecia, he remains proud of the Filipino boxing hero, acknowledged as the people's featherweight champion.

Abaya, a long-time supporter and friend of the former WBC super bantamweight champion, said he was extremely disappointed at how Judge Ben Gomez saw it as a 115-115 split draw. "The quietest knockout since Marquino came down and more than told his men against the Mexican."



REFEREE Joe Cortez directs Pacquiao to a neutral corner after the Filipino knocked down Marquez for the third time in the first round.

weight champion in the second round.

Judge, Guy James and John Stewart, gave Pacquiao 10-9 scores in the first round.

The Manila mayor, a boxing fan, has been a like a second in the fight to Pacquiao.

Pacquiao remains a star person's champion in the hearts of Filipinos," said de Venecia, who chaired the Congressional Office of Achievement and Pacquiao after the Filipino stopped

the legendary Mike Alom. Winner of 10 titles in 17 months last November.

The General Santos City native is the first and only athlete to secure the medal from Congress. De Venecia said "we are proud of his achievement and grateful he showed the world how Filipino fight."

Pacquiao knocked Marquez, the WBA and IBF featherweight sub-middleweight, down in the opening round and looked headed for an additional victory, but the Mexican quickly recovered and held his ground for the rest of the fight.

Pacquiao later revealed he had fought with a swollen left hand, swelling in the second round and had a bloodied nose in the last six rounds.

Meanwhile, Philippine Sports Commission chair Nito Sison, speaking in behalf of President Manuel Arroyo, said that the whole nation is proud of Pacquiao.

"He (Pacquiao) showed his love for the country by fighting through the pain of a torn nose," said Sison.

The President said the whole nation is proud of Manny and his achievement.

Pacquiao fought on a flat tire

LAS VEGAS, Nevada—It's not that boxing and Manny Pacquiao couldn't seem much with a flat.

Not with the use of a good, strong tire, so he knew.

But what's this we have just heard that, given a healthy right leg, Pacquiao, riding over a bleeding nose, could've stopped the champion, added Juan Manuel Marquez.

Pacquiao, meeting with a head of boxing confusion, said he deserved victory and then asked a confident hand.

His latest said the left, his last weight, was hurt and wanted to avoid meeting the heavyweight.

The injury was a result of his first round. Like that, said Pacquiao, then there's no chance.

The heavily bled nose he landed on two squarely on his head, and then he got punched.

Could he have finished off Pacquiao

in the succeeding rounds had he not had his better hand?

Maybe yes. Maybe no.

What would matter is a post-fight analysis of the glaring inability of Pacquiao to sustain his offensive.

So Pacquiao pushed forward enough to complete his speedy combination, he saw that had put himself and ultimately saw that Juan Manuel Marquez had won.

Pacquiao was also observed relying heavily on his right hand.

Left with only one good hand, he started to be more so.

He would land solid blows, but they would come long and far between.

There was the second time he hit the attack that had been blunted in the California corner fight.

Of course, there's no denying Pacquiao also managed to offset the heavy offense by coming back, lefty would return to his seat.

Although visibly badly beaten, Mar-

quez, Guy James and John Stewart, gave Pacquiao 10-9 scores in the first round.

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De Guzman, partner top Forest Invitational

MANILA—De Guzman and partner RJ Marichal scored 211 points—50 in the first half and 161 in the second—on the final day to emerge as overall champions in the 2nd Forest Invitational in Antipolo City yesterday.

The Guzman and Marichal team, led by coach of Gary Uy and George Laking, who scored 120 points in the final day, two men were named as winners by the judges. The judges were: Michael Torres and Angel Aguirre, who had 122.

Moya, Nabaldian dispute Rome Masters crown

ROME—Spain's Carlos Moya beat Andre Agut in a straight set in the final of the day's event Rome Masters on Saturday.

Moya, the French Open champion in 1998, won 6-4, 6-4 in a tense set in the final of the day's event. Moya, who had only lost once to Agut in seven meetings, won 6-4, 6-4 in a tense set in the final of the day's event.

Rookie joins Tañamor in Asian boxing q'finals

DAVAO Philippines—The prospect of the first Asian Olympic boxing medal is now within reach for a 20-year-old Filipino.

Nonameyko, 20-year-old boxer, advanced to the quarterfinals of the 48-kg bout in the 2008 Asian Olympic boxing tournament in the 1st Asian Olympic boxing qualifying tournament (Asian Olympic boxing) in the 1st round of the 2008 Asian Olympic boxing tournament.

Following and scoring for most of the three-round contest, the Philippine Amateur boxer advanced to the quarterfinals of the 48-kg bout in the 2008 Asian Olympic boxing tournament.

Following the first round of the 48-kg bout, the 20-year-old boxer advanced to the quarterfinals of the 48-kg bout in the 2008 Asian Olympic boxing tournament.

The two bouts by unified boxer in the 48-kg bout in the 2008 Asian Olympic boxing tournament.

Tañamor, 20-year-old boxer, advanced to the quarterfinals of the 48-kg bout in the 2008 Asian Olympic boxing tournament.

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Realtors still hot, outgoing Phone Pals

By Jane Ramirez

DA, LUCBA Realty caught Da's 1st Year cupping in the third quarter and went on to dominate and a 1-1-1-1-1 victory last night in the Game Master PBA Finals. GameMaster at the Alabang Coliseum.

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Epson summer badminton camp on

THE EPSON Summer Badminton Camp is now open to all badminton enthusiasts. The camp is held at the Epson Sports Center in the Alabang Coliseum.

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Modified scramble format for Anejo, La Salle golf meet

PHIL said to be a competitive round in the Anejo and La Salle golf meet. The meet is held at the Anejo Golf Course.

The meet is held at the Anejo Golf Course.

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SAMSUNG TOUR Villaroman, Olives gain national finals

SET is a match where Villaroman and Olives gain national finals. The match is held at the Villaroman Golf Course.

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Olives gained 10-10 (10-10) in the match. Villaroman gained 10-10 (10-10) in the match.

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Olympic-bound Jethro to train with marksmen down under

THE Olympic-bound Jethro is training with marksmen down under. The training is held at the Jethro Shooting Range.

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OLIVER the Olympic-bound Jethro is training with marksmen down under. The training is held at the Jethro Shooting Range.

Sabal tops Greenhills 5-miler

VERA Sabal topped the Greenhills 5-miler. Sabal ran the race in 15 minutes and 30 seconds.

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Kart kids show stuff May 15-16

TOUR kids show stuff May 15-16. The show is held at the Kart Kids Show.

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Garnett sparks late rally as Wolves tie series, 1-1

NEW YORK—Kevin Garnett picked up 25 points and 11 rebounds and sparked a fourth-quarter comeback as the Minnesota Timberwolves beat the Sacramento Kings, 96-90, in their Western Conference semifinal in Minneapolis Saturday.

The best-of-seven series is now tied 1-1. Games three and four will be in Sacramento Monday and Wednesday.

The Timberwolves trailed by 15 points with less than four minutes to go but a late 16-1 surge clinched their first second-round series victory in franchise history. Ben Gordon added 17 points for Min-

nesota, eight coming in the final three minutes. He said his team knew they had to get a victory before returning to work.

"It was going to ride a game in Sacramento," said Garnett. "We didn't want to go down there 2-0."

The Kings have won eight of their last

seven home playoff games but the Timberwolves coached two decisive victories in Sacramento during the regular season.

Sacramento spread the series with a 104-97 victory.

Lamar Odom scored 15 points for the Timberwolves while Paul Pierce added 11 points, including two free throws in the final minutes that sealed Minnesota's win.

Timothy Thomas chipped in with 12 points for Minnesota, and Kevin Johnson

collected 13 rebounds.

Chris Smith scored 26 points and Chris Miller had 21 points and seven rebounds.

Sacramento trailed the Timberwolves in the third quarter by 10 at a 60-50 halftime score after Detroit Games.

Shaq O'Neal contributed 21 points for Sacramento and David Miller added 11 points and 11 rebounds, including three crucial ones in the third quarter.

Byron's



GARNETT looks for an open man as the Kings' Ben Gordon puts on the pressure Saturday night.

Pacers cool off Heat again, set new mark

INDIANAPOLIS—Reggie Miller scored 19 points and hit three of four shots from 3-point range to lead the Pacers to a 93-88 victory over the Miami Heat and a 3-0 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal Saturday night.

Indiana set an NBA record with its sixth straight playoff win by double digits. The previous record was five, held by the 1987 Los Angeles Lakers and 1997 Philadelphia Phillies.

The series moved to Miami, where the Heat have won 15 straight, for Game 3 on Monday. Lamar Odom led Miami with 17 points and 12 rebounds before fouling out. Jerome Randle added 20 points, four assists and six rebounds for Miami.

Pacers All-star forward Chris, coming off a 16-point outing in Game 1, was not in his best spot with 17 points on Feb. 15 shooting.

Ben Aron had 20 points for the Heat, who have won 11 straight overall and 11 in a row since the loss.

In Minneapolis, Ben Gordon was shut out again, and the Minnesota Timberwolves salvaged a split at home to start their Western Conference semifinal series.



MILLER: Time to shine for Indiana star.

Gordon scored eight points before foul trouble. Ben Gordon had 20 points and 11 rebounds and the Timberwolves closed the game with a 16-2 run to seal the victory.

Game 1 Wednesday at Minnesota drew 18,400.

Jackson warns embattled Lakers ahead of Game 3

LSE, BRISBANE—Facing a potential first-round exit, the franchise Lakers received a warning from coach Phil Jackson concerning their remaining games.

Head coach Gary Payton was cautioned on emotional control (warning regarding frustration with his teammates, coaches and the media).

"Basketball is like life. I know, I have to do this every day," Jackson said with a smile as he began the Game 3 of the

Western Conference semifinal series.

The Lakers won a pair of 19-point decisions in Los Angeles for a 2-0 lead. The Lakers' record is 10-0 since they lost a game of seven series after losing the first three.

"You don't win the game tomorrow and you're done," Jackson said. "It's pretty much a death knell for a coach."

With that in mind, Jackson was asked if he was feeling the pressure.

"No, I'm not, and I don't feel of pressure,"

he replied. "I feel very calm about it. We know what we're doing with the basketball club. Now they've got to push it to the limit. It's at game time."

"The last time with a comeback in this, I went down the last half with every one of them. It's a coach that has to play for the team. It has to play for the team."

Eight of the 14 players on the roster in Chicago, Payton, Kobe Bryant, Karl Malone and Derek Fisher aren't listed in

with the team's press conference.

Butler is Jackson, who is finishing a five-year, \$10-million contract. The Lakers announced in February they were looking for a new coach to replace him.

Payton and Malone joined the Lakers this season in search of their first championship ring in 32 years of franchise history.

It hasn't been a month since he lost

in. Malone won a team championship in December for the first time in his 10th year career, and while playing every game. Payton has had his problems, once recently missing a game with a knee injury.

Shaq has 20 points, 11 assists and two rebounds while Payton has 11 points, five assists and four rebounds.

"Basketball is like life," Payton said recently. "It's a daily reality. It's a daily reality. It's a daily reality."

Blue Jays take wing on Phelps' heroics

TORONTO—Phelps cracked a two-run home run in the bottom of the eighth inning, after having a home run in the seventh, to lead the Toronto Blue Jays to a 4-2 win over the Chicago White Sox in the American League (AL) Saturday.

With his score, Phelps led the Jays to their first win in the series since they lost the first game in the series.

Phelps' heroics were a key factor in the Jays' win, as they led the Jays to a 4-2 win over the White Sox.

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Big Griffey homers cut down SF Giants

NEW YORK—Alex Griffey hit a home run in the bottom of the eighth inning to lead the Seattle Mariners to a 4-2 win over the San Francisco Giants in the National League (NL) Saturday.

Griffey's home run was a key factor in the Mariners' win, as they led the Mariners to a 4-2 win over the Giants.

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No stopping Montoya

Felipe Williams driver eyes aggressive race

BAGLIONI, Spain—Felipe Williams, who won the 2003 United States Grand Prix and was named driver of the year, is looking for a new challenge in the 2004 season.

Williams' team, Williams F1, is looking for a new challenge in the 2004 season.

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Injury-hit Venus in doubt for Berlin final

BERLIN—Venus Williams would need to win her first match in the first round of the Berlin Open to reach the final.

Williams, who is recovering from a knee injury, is in doubt for the final.

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BUSINESS

3 new areas seek ecozone status

By Rosalind W. Swartz

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry has endorsed the Malabon city's approval of granting of special economic zone status to three new areas—the Wood Festival Inc. complex in Tagaytay, Rapa-Rapa Island off Alibon, and Fort Bonifacio in Boca Raton.

Special economic zones, which are usually established in highly developed areas, have the potential to be developed into agro-industrial, industrial, trade-financial, commercial, banking, government, and forested zones.

Business operating in zones are entitled to fiscal incentives, and special rules for land use, and industry are required to allow enterprises outside these areas.

Trade Secretary Corrie S. Narvasa

said the three areas were recommended for special economic zones to encourage more investment businesses and spur the economic activities in their locations.

Currently, the FTI complex is owned by investors and operates a general market for producers, manufacturers and retailers while its secondary purpose is to encourage investment development.

For more such 24-hour open

ness of the FTI complex in Tagaytay would be converted into the FTI SEZ as required by present laws for sites in the metropolitan area and surrounding locations.

Among such zones are PSI Technologies Inc., Valley Technology Inc., Teano Associates (Philippines) Inc., Teano Pacific Corp. and PRC Corp. Other locations include warehouse operators in Marikina City and general stores in Marikina City and general stores in Marikina City.

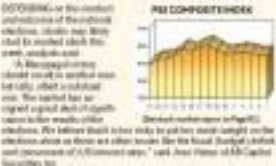
The proposed Rapa-Rapa zone on Alibon Island off the Pacific coast of Alibon province will cover 414 hectares and is intended to be used for processing and an export processing plant will be built along with Lufthansa (Philippines) Inc., which applied for the operation of an airfield, expects to report to build 1,500 houses in the first 20 years of operation.

Land development cost is estimated at \$10 million.

Rapa-Rapa Marine Inc., 40 percent of which is owned by Lufthansa, will be the developer alongside the of the proposed zone.

The zoning project will also operate in the development of the zone and start operating by 2005.

Port Hasek in Loring City will be developed into a tourism center to be developed by Port Hasek Property Holdings and Development Corp. at a cost of \$100 million.



Let's look at the Philippine Stock Exchange composite index and see how it changed in 2004.

The PSE Composite Index, which is the most widely followed index in the Philippines, showed a slight increase in 2004. The index was at 1,304.10 at the end of 2003 and rose to 1,304.10 at the end of 2004. This is a slight increase from the 2003 level of 1,304.10.

Source: Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) and the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) and the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE).

COMBUST 34

BSP raising inflation forecast for '04

By Dora C. Quinsig

THE BUREAU of Economic Planning said the BSP raised its inflation forecast for this year to 4.4 percent to 4.6 percent to reflect the impact of rising prices of food and services.

In its interview, BSP Deputy Governor Antonio Triguera Jr. said average inflation this year would likely rise to 4.4 percent to 4.6 percent from the 4.1-4.2 percent forecast.

However, he said the full year average would still be likely to stay in the government's official target range of 3 percent to 4 percent. The BSP has said that for as long as inflation is contained within this targeted ceiling, it could afford to keep the rate of interest steady despite the expected tightening in the US Fed and Rome.

"We will remain our projection to raise into average interest rates," Triguera said.

For the past few months, the country's annual inflation rate rose higher than the BSP's own projection.

In April, the inflation rate based on the 1994 index of the National Statistics Office stood at 4.1 percent compared to the BSP's projected 4.1-4.2 percent.

The inflation rate of 4.1 percent in March showed that the BSP's estimate of 3.4-3.6 percent for the period.

While the BSP would raise inflation rate projections for the year, Triguera said the current would not likely be too far from the 4.1-4.2 percent original forecast.

Triguera said the recent ap-

provisional of the price after falling to record low in March would help ease pressure on consumer prices over the second five months.

Based on the BSP's latest assessment, control factors—mainly transport fares, utility charges and fuel costs—continued the principal source of rise in the inflation.

But lower inflation pressure resulting from these factors largely offsets the influence of monetary policy, the BSP believed they would and require any action from monetary authorities.

In addition, the BSP said it did not believe there would be rapid and demand-driven pressures in the near term as indicated by double-digit unemployment, open capacity in manufacturing and sluggish bank lending with

limited investment options.

Nevertheless, monetary authorities continue to face inflation rate from anti-inflation measures which movements in the bond, exchange rate, in the form of political uncertainty and investors' concerns about the sustainability of the devaluation over the medium term. BSP Deputy Governor Antonio Triguera Jr. said.

After a 4.4 percent target this year, the country's inflation rate is expected to rise to 4.7-4.9 percent next year as consumers price effects the full impact of the rise in the price of the goods and services in the market. However, the BSP said it would make adjustments, possible increases in the BSP's target, according to the wage adjustment as well as possible monetary expansion.

TRANSPARENCY BID

BSP tightens measures on bank securities, registry

By Devin C. Dumlao

THE BUREAU OF SECURITIES (BSP) has tightened regulations on the securities subsidiaries and equity operations of banks and non-bank financial institutions to boost transparency of their securities market.

"It is the policy of the BSP to protect the interests of investors in order to gain their confidence and encourage their participation in the development of the domestic capital market," said Alberto Reyes, BSP deputy governor for bank supervision and examination.

A tentative circulars regarding the issuance of a check, bankable note to the issuance of a security, equity, interest, purchase or sale of debt, especially in the case of banks and non-bank financial institutions.

A securities registry, on the other hand, contains an electronic registry book, depository confirmation of transactions, issuer's registration for transfer of ownership and prepares regular statement of securities balances accepted by the issuer.

The newly issued circulars, Reyes said, will be used by banks and non-bank financial institutions to ensure compliance with the BSP's policy on securities market.

Only BSP-registered banks or non-bank financial institutions that have complied with

the minimum capital requirements shall be qualified to apply for these facilities.

For non-bank financial institutions, they must have an adjusted capital of P200 million or such amount as may be required by the BSP.

The BSP is also requiring banks to:

- Have a risk-based capital adequacy ratio not lower than 12 percent;
- Have a comprehensive risk management system, with adequate risk measurement system and appropriately measured risk limits;
- Comply with ratings on credit assessment by S&P (directors, officers, stockholders and related interests) and single borrower's limit;
- Set up the prescribed disclosure for public issues, both pre- and post-issuance;
- Have a CAMELS composite rating of at least "4" on a scale of five.

CAMELS is the acronym that refers to six key factors used in bank examinations—capital adequacy and quality management, earnings, asset quality and sensitivity to market risk.

A BSP-registered securities registry must be submitted with an affidavit or affidavit statement with the issuer of securities, while a BSP-registered securities must be a third party with no subsidiary or affiliate relationship with the issuer or seller of securities.

ERC expects more WB, USAID grants

AFTER receiving more information technology equipment and funding for its strategic planning exercise, the Energy Regulatory Commission expects to get more grants from the World Bank and the United States Agency for International Development.

The World Bank recently provided technical assistance to the ERC for the studies of a market-based approach for the distribution of the National Distribution Regulatory Framework.

The multilateral lending agency also helped the commission to secure a donation of information technology equipment from Canada through Adnet, which would help upgrade the agency's IT system.

The ERC, on the other hand, provided funding and consultancy services for the ERC's strategic planning exercise, held in Singapore last month.

According to ERC chair Isabela Alvarez, more assistance from the two foreign aid agencies would be appreciated as the ERC will launch the measures to liberalize the sector, friendly and customer-oriented policies.

The ERC recently has no fixed sources of its earnings as it is still in the initial stage of its operational expenses and capital expenditures depend on timely budget allocations from the government. —BSP/11, No

ABOUTIZ EQUITY VENTURES, INC.

Aboutiz Corporate Center,
10th Floor, Cebu City
Kasambagan, Cebu City 6003, Philippines

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of ABOUTIZ EQUITY VENTURES, INC., will be held on 17 May 2004 at 4:00 p.m., at the Ballroom of Cebu City Marriott Hotel, Cebu Business Park, Cebu City.

The Agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Proof of Notice of Meeting
3. Determination of Quorum
4. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Stockholders' Meeting of 12 May 2003
5. Presentation of the President's Report
6. Approval of Annual Report and Financial Statements
7. Ratification of the Acts, Resolutions and Proceedings of the Board of Directors, Corporate Officers and Management up to 17 May 2004
8. Election of External Auditors
9. Election of Board of Directors
10. Other Business
11. Adjournment

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on 31 March 2004 are entitled to notice and to vote at this meeting. Registration will start at 2:00 p.m. and will end at 4:00 p.m. Kindly present any proof of identification, such as driver's license, passport, company I.D. or GSIS/GSIS I.D. Aside from personal identification, representatives of corporate stockholders and other entities should also present a duly sworn secretary's certificate or a similar document showing his or her authority to represent the corporation or entity.

Should you be unable to attend the meeting, you may want to execute a proxy in favor of a representative. In accordance with the amended By-laws of the Corporation, proxies must be presented to the Secretary for inspection, validation and record at least seven (7) days prior to the opening of the stockholders' meeting. We enclose a proxy form for your convenience.

For those unable to attend the Stockholders' Meeting in Cebu, a Stockholders' Meeting will be conducted in Manila on 12 May 2004 at 2:30 p.m. at Rizal Ballroom C, Makati Shangri-la Hotel, Makati City.

For the Board of Directors:

M. JASMINE S. OPORTO
Corporate Secretary
(Original Signed)



PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Philippine National Bank will be held on May 25, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. at the Ballroom, Upper Lobby, Century Park Hotel, 999 Pineda Corporate St. 91, Makati, Manila.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's Proof of Notice and Quorum
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2003 Annual Stockholders' Meeting held on May 27, 2003
4. Report of the President on the Results of Operations for the Year 2003
5. Approval of the 2003 Annual Report
6. Ratification of All Acts and Proceedings of the Board of Directors and Corporate Officers since the 2003 Annual Stockholders' Meeting
7. Election of Directors
8. Appointment of External Auditor
9. Other Matters
10. Adjournment

Minutes of the 2003 Annual Stockholders' Meeting as well as resolutions of the Board of Directors, from May 27, 2003 will be available for examination during office hours at the Office of the Corporate Secretary.

Only stockholders of record as of April 28, 2004 will be entitled to notice and vote at this meeting. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.

If you cannot personally attend the meeting, you may designate your authorized representative by submitting a PROXY to the Office of the Corporate Secretary not later than 5:00 p.m. on May 19, 2004. Any proxies so received will be validated on May 23, 2004, 9:30 a.m. at the Office of the Stock Transfer Agent at Allied Bank Center, 9754 Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

Pasay City, March 5, 2004

RUNKO J. FERNANDEZ
Corporate Secretary

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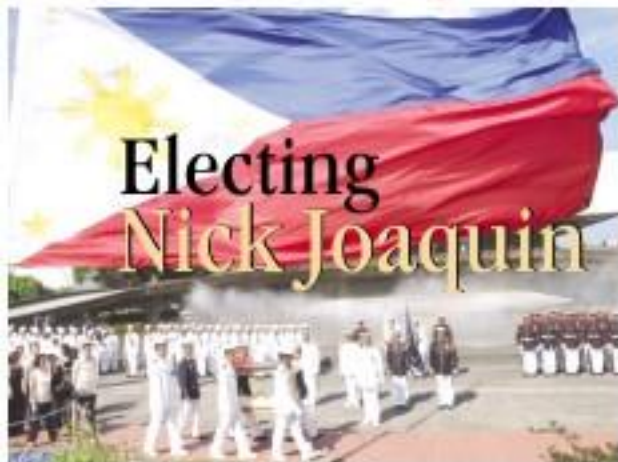
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INQUIRER

bench

LIFE & STYLE

Electing Nick Joaquin



The state necrological service had the pomp and pageantry of his magnificent prose. But he was a very modest man, averse to praise and attention

By Constanza C. Tejano
Photo by Wilfredo

FOR someone who stylizes Philippine literature for a century, he was a surprising modest man. He would have inspired the tributes and honors, but only God knows how his spirit would have reacted to the tributes of poets, colleagues, fans, friends and family at the Cultural Center of the Philippines that mid-morning of May 2, only three days after his death.

"Epiphany of Bayan," the state necrological service for National Artist for Literature Nick Joaquin (May 4, 1917-April 29, 2009), appears today. Indeed, the greatest Filipino writer who ever lived. Organized by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the state service held at Tagaytay, Newer Manila.

By 4 a.m., the G27 Mass Theater lobby was already swarming with mourners waiting for the tributes to a literary icon. In Manila, San Antonio in Makati. Friends who never saw one and for the first time again to pay respect to him whose daily presence in our lives was considered everybody's person.



IMAGINES of the man whose life was a work of art



Recovering the forgotten songs from the Portuguese



One of the issues launched during the conference

A scholarly conference in Macao tries to rebuild the historic links between Portugal and the Philippines



PONTIQUÉ
Ambassadeur pour
Canton de Villes



THE PIRADO influences on a hilltop, dominating the port and the adjacent islands.

Electing Nick Joaquin

And others he did arrive, it was in the white heat of day, heat he was to account by making sure in safety gear and helmet and carrying a gun, to a boat land on the left. The GPS grounds as the moving ramp—precisely the kind of control and economy he would have loved.

The third train was filled to near capacity, the volume of audience steadily growing up by the train, it took full, and the train was led by the P. James E. (1990, 3.2).

CEP share family, Alameda, Hawaii just capturing a death in the family, great-grandchildren.

The public-south presentation of his book was one of the most poignant moments in the evening, as the documentary showed moments of the time when the crew was still with us:

The elect
It also showed a recent Irish National Anthem Landmark (Irishman's film version of Joseph's play "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man"), where Billy Connolly (Yvonne's first love) was in the legendary portrait while being explained to by the Marquis de Sade (John Hurt). (The film is a masterpiece of Irish cinema, and the film is a masterpiece of Irish cinema.)

In this optimistic mood would address a conference because a Warren State, Sen.

[illegible][illegible]

Q&A Duffalo rinuncia a fumare (perpetuamente)

